



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

**Flagstaff Area National  
Monuments**

Walnut Canyon, Wupatki,  
and Sunset Crater Volcano  
National Monuments.

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## **Flagstaff Area National Monuments News Release**

**Release date:** Immediate  
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### **Wupatki National Monument Visitor Center Renovation**

The visitor center at Wupatki National Monument will be closed for approximately 3 months beginning January 3, 2005, for interior renovation and installation of new exhibits. Other park facilities will remain open, including the Wupatki Pueblo Trail, located behind the visitor center. Park rangers will be on-site to answer questions, and full visitor services will be available at the Sunset Crater Volcano visitor center, 18 miles to the south. Similar work was completed at that center in May, 2004. Temporary restrooms will be available during construction, but visitors should bring their own drinking water to the site.

The visitor center renovation is long overdue. Most of the existing exhibits have been in place for 20-30 years. Others are home-made additions. They are not just worn out - they are no longer accurate. "Our understanding of this place and its resources has changed over the years," said Superintendent Palma Wilson, "and on-going research continuously adds to our knowledge. The new exhibits will help us share these exciting stories with park visitors."

This is a Fee Demonstration project funded by local park entrance fees. Exhibit design and fabrication is being done through a partnership with the Museum of Northern Arizona. Work should be completed, and the visitor center reopened, by mid-April. In the interim, progress reports and photographs will be posted on the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/wupa>.

The scenic loop drive that connects Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki National Monuments is located 12 miles north of Flagstaff via U.S. 89. Wupatki is 22 miles north of the Sunset Crater Volcano visitor center. A single entrance fee covers both parks. For additional information, please contact Flagstaff Area National Monuments Headquarters at 928-526-1157.

